



State of North Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

For Release: Immediate
Contact: Lori Walston, 919/733-9190

Date: April 22, 2005

MEDIA ADVISORY
Pre-White House Conference on Aging Forum Being Held on May 18

RALEIGH: The N.C. Governor's Advisory Council on Aging (GAC) will sponsor a pre-White House Conference on Aging Forum at the Holiday Inn Brownstone Hotel at 1707 Hillsborough Street in Raleigh on Wed., May 18, from 9:00 a.m. until 2 p.m.

This forum will help prepare North Carolina for the upcoming national White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA) being held on Oct., 23-26, in Washington, D.C. The 2005 White House Conference on Aging is intended to produce policy recommendations to guide national aging policy over the next decade through 2015.

The GAC event is open to the public and is targeted to any organization or group that has an interest in influencing public policy geared toward aging services', baby boomers', and caregivers' interests. This forum is set-up to allow groups and organizations to share their recommendations on issues important to older adults in an open, constructive, and efficient manner. The Lieutenant Governor is scheduled to make remarks about the aging policy challenges facing North Carolina and the aging of the Boomers at the luncheon.

To register, please visit the N.C. Division of Aging and Adult Service's (DAAS) website and download a registration form, complete the form, and return it to Julie Bell by April 30 either by email at Julie.Bell@ncmail.net or regular mail at NC DAAS, 2101 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2101. You can download the registration form, along with other materials, at <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/aging/whcoa/whcoahome.htm>. For directions to the Holiday Inn Brownstone Hotel, please call the hotel at (919) 828-0811 or by visiting their website at <http://www.brownstonehotel.com>. Blocks of rooms at special rates (\$69 plus breakfast) have been set aside for those attending the event.

This will be the fifth White House conference held and the first of the new century, with others being in 1961, 1971, 1981, and 1995. The White House Conference on Aging is held periodically as a vehicle to make aging policy recommendations to the President and Congress and to assist the public and private sections in promoting dignity, health, independence and economic security of older generations. This year, the WHCoA Policy Committee Chair, Dorcas Hardy, urged the national conference policy committee to look at aging in terms of both "today and tomorrow" and to "identify emerging trends....to help our nation prepare for the changes anticipated over the next decade [the aging of the baby boomers]." For more information about the conference, please visit <http://www.whcoa.org>.

The N.C. Governor's Advisory Council on Aging makes recommendations to the Governor and the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services on how to improve the quality of life of older North Carolinians. For a list of the current members, please see <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/aging/gaclist.htm>.

#####

